

#### **IV. REMARKS**

Claims 1, 3, 4, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Brown (U.S. Patent No. 5,749,219) in view of Sarno (U.S. Patent No. 6,024,641). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Brown teaches a method of conducting an on-line auction with bid pooling that permits individual bidders to pool bids during a bidding session. The auction is conducted over a computer network that includes a central computer, a number of remote computers and communication lines connecting the remote computers to the central computer. With reference to Figure 2, an account creation computer 28 has an electronic mail server E2 for sending new account confirmation messages 34 to the bidder 38 at a remote computer 30. The remote computer 30 has an electronic mail client E3 for receiving and confirming new account confirmation messages 34.

Sarno teaches a lottery gaming system that provides a game on a computer network that has a game provider computer and a game player recipient processor.

Claim 1 is directed to a lottery system utilizing an electronic mail. Claim 1 recites that the lottery system includes means for sending an electronic mail in which a unique access key is affixed to each one of a plurality of specified participants. Claim 1 also recites that the lottery system includes means for selecting one of a plurality of applications for a lottery on the basis of the unique access key received from each of said participants and means for notifying each one of the plurality of participants of their result of the lottery.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the applied art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the features of claim 1. Specifically, it is respectfully submitted that none of the applied art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests means for sending an electronic mail in which a unique access key is affixed. Further, it is respectfully submitted that none of the applied art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests means for selecting one of a plurality of applications for a lottery on the basis of the unique access key. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the features of the applied art because such

combination would not result in the claimed invention. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable over the applied art.

Claims 3, 4, 12, and 13 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Brown and Sarno in view of Petrecca (U.S. Patent No. 6,409,593). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Petrecca teaches a method of conducting a sweepstakes drawing over the Internet.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1 and includes all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 2 is allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features it recites.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Brown and Sarno in view of McArdle et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,442,686).

McArdle teaches a system and methodology for a messaging server-based management and enforcement of crypto policies.

Claims 5-9 and 11 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Brown and Sarno in view of Kamasaka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,240,455). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Kamasaka is directed to in Internet server providing link destination deletion, alteration and addition.

Claim 10 depends from claim 1 and includes all of the features of claim 1. Thus, we propose to argue that claim 10 is allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is

allowable as well as for the features it recites.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Newly-added claims 14 and 15 also include features not shown in the applied art.

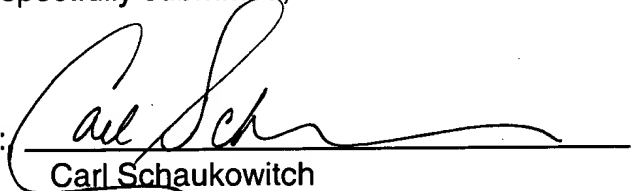
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 24, 2003

By:

  
Carl Schaukowitch  
Reg. No. 29,211

**RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC**  
1233 20<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. Suite 501  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Tel: (202) 955-3750  
Fax: (202) 955-3751  
Customer No. 23353

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